

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Reconsideration of this application is requested.

Claims 1-3, 5-12, and 14-15 are pending in this application. Claims 1-2, 9-10, and 15 are independent. Claims 1-2, 9-10, and 15 are amended. Claims 4 and 13 are canceled without prejudice.

Allowable Subject Matter

On page 8 of the Office Action, Claims 4, 9, 13, and 15 are indicated as allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Applicant acknowledges and appreciates the allowable subject matter of Claims 4, 9, 13, and 15.

Non-Art Based Objections

On page 2 of the Office Action, Claim 2 was objected to for informalities. In response, claim 2 is amended in accordance with the Examiner's suggestions.

Art-Based Rejections

Claims 1-3, 5-6, and 8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) over Kikuchi (USPN 5,552,901). Claim 7 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Kikuchi (USPN 5,552,901) in view of Albal (USPN 5,826,034). Claim 14 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Okada (USPN 5,757,510) in view of Kikuchi (USPN 5,552,901). Applicant traverses these rejections and submits that all pending claims are patentable in light of the amendments and arguments set forth herein.

Kikuchi 5,552,901

Kikuchi is directed to a facsimile server system which can be utilized likewise to a conventional stand-alone FAX. (*See Kikuchi, Col. 2, lines 56-58*). According to Kikuchi, the facsimile server system realizes the parallel runs of other business applications in a PC or WS, which is operated as a FAX server. (*See Kikuchi, Col. 2, lines 59-61*).

Albal 5,826,034

Albal is directed to a system and method for end-to-end ubiquitous payload delivery that is essentially the electronic equivalent to registered mail. (*See Albal,*

Col. 2, lines 7-14). According to Albal, a sender is able to establish delivery parameters that are complimented by a smart delivery system so as to ensure that the payload is delivered within the set parameters, which include a preferred media of delivery and a number of attempts within a given period of time before conversion of the payload to an alternate media that also has a number of attempts in a given period of time designated before yet further media conversions are performed. (*See Albal, Col. 2, lines 15-23*).

Okada 5,757,510

Okada discloses a facsimile apparatus that flexibly determines lines to be used at a sending end and a receiving end and for conditions arising from various functions. (*See Okada, Col. 1, lines 60-65*). According to Okada, the facsimile apparatus is connected to an exchange governing a plurality of facsimile terminals via a plurality of sending lines and a plurality of receiving lines. (*See Okada, Col. 1, line 67 to Col. 2, line 3*).

The Claims are Patentable over the Applied References

On page 8, the Office Action states that Claims 4, 9, 13, and 15 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. By this paper, independent Claims 1 and 2 have been amended to include the patentable subject matter of Claim 4, and patentable Claim 9 has been amended to include the subject matter of the base Claim 1. Moreover, independent Claim 10 has been amended to include the patentable subject matter of Claim 13, and patentable Claim 15 has been amended to include the subject matter of the base Claim 10.

Accordingly, the applied references do not disclose or suggest the above features of the present invention as defined by amended independent Claims 1 and 2. In particular, the applied references do not disclose or suggest, "wherein the another network includes LAN and internet, the data is an e-mail, and the control unit accepts the request for data transfer if the e-mail is received over LAN and

does not accept the request for data transfer if the e-mail is received over the internet," as required by amended independent Claims 1 and 2.

The applied references do not disclose or suggest the above features of the present invention as defined by amended independent Claim 9. In particular, the applied references do not disclose or suggest, "wherein the data is printed when the request for data transfer is refused," as required by amended independent Claim 9.

The applied references do not disclose or suggest the above features of the present invention as defined by amended independent Claim 10. In particular, the applied references do not disclose or suggest, "wherein the network includes LAN and internet, the data is an e-mail, and the step B determines that the data should be transferred if the e-mail is received over LAN and that the data should not be transferred if the e-mail is received over the internet," as required by amended independent Claim 10.

Moreover, the applied references do not disclose or suggest the above features of the present invention as defined by amended independent Claim 15. In particular, the applied references do not disclose or suggest, "printing the data when the step B determines that the data should not be transferred," as required by amended independent Claim 15.

Since the applied references fail to disclose, teach, or suggest the above features as required by amended independent Claims 1-2, 9-10, and 15, those references cannot be said to anticipate nor render obvious the invention, which is the subject matter of amended independent Claims 1-2, 9-10, and 15.

The remaining Claims 3, 5-8, 11-12, and 14 depend either directly or indirectly from amended independent Claims 1, 2, and 10 and recite additional features of the invention which are neither disclosed nor fairly suggested by the applied references. Therefore, the remaining Claims 3, 5-8, 11-12, and 14 are also believed to be in condition for allowance and such allowance is respectfully requested.

Conclusion

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. Reexamination and reconsideration of the application, as amended herein, are respectfully requested.

If for any reason the Examiner finds the application other than in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to call the undersigned attorney at the Los Angeles, California telephone number (213) 337-6700 to discuss the steps necessary for placing the application in condition for allowance.

If there are any fees due in connection with the filing of this response, please charge the fees to our Deposit Account No. 50-1314.

Respectfully submitted,
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